GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4942
ANSWERED ON:25.08.2000
MEDICINAL PLANTS
SANJAY PASWAN

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether possibility of medicinal plants becoming extinct has increased which are otherwise found in abundance in the country;

(b) if so, whether the Government have taken any concrete steps for the conservation of the same; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN)

(a) to (c) Yes, Sir, the following steps have been taken by the Government to conserve the endangered plant species :

(i) The Botanical Survey of India (BSI) has prepared a Red Data Book listing the threatened and endangered species of plants including Medicinal Plants.

(ii) Collection of certain Plants species covered under Schedule VI of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 from any forest land or specified area has been banned by law.

(iii) Export of 29 species of plant portion and their derivatives obtained from the wild have been prohibited under the Export Import Policy of India. However, cultivated variety of plant/plant portions of the 29 banned species can be allowed for export subject to production of certificate of cultivation and a CITES permit, wherever applicable.

(iv) Programme for Conservation of Medicinal Plants in the protected areas has been initiated.

(v) In-situ regeneration of plants by National Afforestation and Eco-development Board (NAEB) under the Non-Timber Forest Produce (NTFP) scheme including medicinal plants. Regeneration of medicinal plants in degraded forest areas under the Joint Forest Management (JFM) scheme of Ministry of Environment and Forests.